

REMARKS

Applicants note that all amendments of Claims presented herein are made without acquiescing to any of the Examiner's arguments or rejections, and solely for the purpose of expediting the patent application process in a manner consistent with the PTO's Patent Business Goals (PBG),¹ and without waiving the right to prosecute the amended Claims (or similar Claims) in the future.

In the Office Action mailed 11/14/06, the Examiner indicated that the claim amendments submitted in the reply filed on 8/24/06 recite sequences that do not have the proper sequence identifier. The Applicants have amended Claim 4 to include sequence identifiers. As such, the Applicants submit that they are in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.821 (a) (1) and (a) (2).

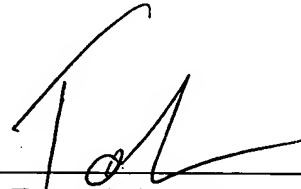
The Examiner further states "in the context of the claim, it is not clear if the recited sequences are positions within SEQ ID NO:6...." (Office Action, pg. 2). The Applicants respectfully disagree and submit that the claim is clear. However, in order to further the prosecution of the present application, and while reserving the right to prosecute the original (or similar) claims in the future, the Applicants have amended Claim 4 to further clarify the location of the claimed sequences. As such, the Applicants submit that the Claim is clear.

¹ 65 Fed. Reg. 54603 (Sept. 8, 2000).

CONCLUSION

Should the Examiner have any questions, or if a telephone conference would aid in the prosecution of the present application, Applicants encourage the Examiner to call the undersigned collect at 608-218-6900.

Dated: December 14, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Arenson', is written over a horizontal line.

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